

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/733,810

Attorney Docket No.: Q78953

DRAWINGS

Please note the “Annotated Sheets” for figures 10 and 12 submitted March 13, 2007.

REMARKS

This amendment, filed in reply to the Office Action dated May 16, 2007, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of the rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 14, and 15 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 3, and 7-13 are canceled. No new matter is added.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to figures 10 and 12 (replacement sheet) because they were not accompanied with an "Annotated sheets" or marked-up copy. Attached are the copies of old figures 10 and 12 showing the changes and labeled "Annotated Sheets." Argument submitted on March 13, 2007 is incorporated herewith. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the approval of these drawings.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claim 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner indicates that claims 14 and 15 recite limitation of "an input circuit" and a "control circuit." The Examiner indicates, however, that these limitations are not shown in the specification.

Applicant respectfully submits that the "input circuit" corresponds to the "communication interface" recited in the specification, the "control circuit" corresponds to the "CPU." See the

specification, page 8, lines 12-25; also figure 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

More specifically, the Examiner indicated the claims 1 and 5 recites, “judging whether a document ...comprises tags which **can** cause conflict...” The Examiner indicates that the word “can” renders the claim vague and indefinite. Similarly, the Examiner indicates that claims 2 and 6 has the same indefiniteness since those claims recite “judging whether a document...comprises tags which **can** impede initiating processing...” Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as amended overcome the rejection. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Templeman (U.S. Patent No. 5,845,303; hereinafter “Templeman”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The claimed invention relates to a technique for analyzing a document written using a structured tag language and generating an image. One aspect of the claimed invention is:

A control apparatus, comprising:
an input circuit that inputs tags corresponding to a document written in a structured tag language; and

a control circuit that determines if the tags indicate a potential conflict between an order in which coordinate positions of objects contained in the document are determined and an order in which images of the objects are formed, **wherein, when the tags indicate the potential conflict, the control circuit forms the images after completely determining the coordinate positions, and**

wherein, when the tags do not indicate the potential conflict, the control circuit begins forming the images before completely determining the coordinate positions.

For Example see claim 14

On the other hand, Templeman teaches a document processing using frame based templates. Templeman teaches that input data is received; the system determined a display format of the data. The display format includes a number of constraints on the display. The system associates the input data with the appropriate display frame and flows the data into a predefined frame to form an image. If the data cannot be accommodated in the frame, the size of the frame is adjusted.

The claimed invention differs from Templeman on the following points: in Templeman, when there is no "conflict" (i.e., when data can be accommodated in the predefined frame), and image is formed in the frame (i.e. the position for image formation is preset), while in the claimed invention, when it is judged that there is no conflict, the position for image formation is not preset and determined when the relevant image is formed. In addition, Templeman does not teach the specific control recited in the claim as highlighted above. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Templeman does not anticipate the claims as described. Further, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection and earnestly solicits the allowance of claim 14.

Claim 15 recites similar limitations as in claim 14, therefore Applicant submits that claim 15 is patentable for at least analogous reasons. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection on claim 15 and earnestly solicits the allowance of this claim.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Nguyen et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,377,354; hereinafter “Nguyen”) in view of W3School “HTML Tutorial: Welcome to HTML School” (hereinafter: “Tutorial”).

One aspect of the claimed invention relates to:

A control method relating to image formation, comprising the steps of:
judging whether a document written in a structured tag language comprises tags which can cause a conflict between the order in which coordinate positions of objects are determined and the order in which images of objects are formed;
performing control, when said tags are judged to be comprised, such that **processing to form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and**
performing control, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, such that processing to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed,
wherein said judgment and said control are performed for each document.

(For Example, see claim 1)

Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention differs from Nguyen in many ways. First, Nguyen discloses that, when it is judged that there is an overlap, a position for an overlapped object is determined and the relevant image is formed, and then a position for an object related to the next print call is determined and the relevant image is formed, instead of determining positions for all the objects in a document and then forming the relevant images.

Second, Nguyen does not teach the specific control method including the steps of “performing control, when said tags are judged to be comprised, such that **processing to form images is executed after completing processing to determine coordinate positions; and performing control, when said tags are judged not to be comprised, such that processing to form images is initiated before processing to determine coordinate positions is completed, wherein said judgment and said control are performed for each document.**”

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection.

In addition, the Tutorial reference does not remedy the deficient teachings of Nguyen. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection and earnestly solicits the allowance of the claim 1.

Claims 2 recites similar limitation as in claim 1 and is therefore patentable for the same reasons. Claims 3-6 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency upon claim 1 or 2.

Allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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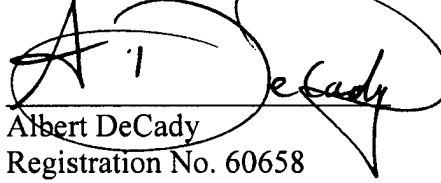
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